

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the telephone interview on 11/08/2004. Applicants' representative discussed the independent claims with the Examiner. Pursuant to the discussion in the interview, Applicants have amended claims 18 and 25.

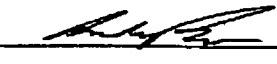
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims, namely claims 18-31, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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